

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 947

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 407

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON POST REPORT ON GARBA PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 030983

1. UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL, I HAD REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ZERBO. SHORTLY AFTERWARD THE COMPOSITION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT WAS ANNOUNCED AND IT MAY BE A FEW DAYS BEFORE I CAN SEE THE NEW FOREIGN MINISTER. THE POST OF SECRETARY GENERAL IS VACANT AND THERE IS NO ONE OF INFLUENCE WITHIN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH WHOM I COULD DISCUSS THE U.S. POSITION ON ANGOLA.

2. GARBA'S PRESS CONFERENCE HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED LOCALLY AND AT ANY RATE, I DOUBT THAT IT WOULD HAVE INFLUENCED UPPER VOLTA'S POSITION ON ANTOLA. THERE IS NO INDICATION AS YET THAT UPPER VOLTA IS CONTEMPLATING A CHANGE IN ITS POSITION, BUT THE NEW GOVERNMENT IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE LESS CONSERVATIVE THAN THE PREVIOUS ONE, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A CHANGE CANNOT BE EXCLUDED ESPECIALLY IF THERE ARE FURTHER DEFECTIONS AMONG MODERATE AFRICAN STATES.

GRAHAM

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Message Attributes

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